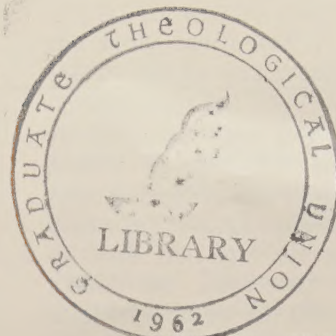




Leaves of Healing

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CHRIST in you, the hope of glory

Colossians 1:27



Christian Catholic Church 1982 Watchword

Zion's Watchword For 1982

Zion's Watchword for 1982 carries a message of vital importance to all in every land and nation, for it presents the one and only hope of Glory offered by God to the sons and daughters of Adam.

Because sin had separated man from God, our blessed Lord and Savior gave up the "glory" which He had with the Father "before the world was" (John 17:5), and took upon Himself our human form and nature and died on Calvary's Cross to redeem us and to make us fit to dwell with Him in Glory.

We should note that our Watchword emphasizes the all-important fact that there is no other hope of Glory than that Christ

should dwell in our hearts by faith (Ephesians 3:17).

By the use of the definite word *the*, Paul limits our hope of dwelling with our Lord in Glory to our acceptance of Him as our Savior and Redeemer. Our Lord Himself said, "I am the Way, the Truth and Life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me" (John 14:6).

If He is not dwelling in you, He is knocking at your heart's door, for we are told in Revelation 3:20 - "Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear My voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with Me." Invite Him into your life as personal Savior - to be your "Hope of Glory".

Deceived

by Rev. Earl L. Minton

Ever since Eve was deceived by Satan in the Garden of Eden, deception has been one of Satan's most effective weapons against mankind down through the ages. In fact, so successful he has been that God's Word tells us that the whole world has been deceived by him.

"And the great dragon was cast out, that old serpent, called the Devil and Satan, who deceiveth the whole world; he was cast out into the earth, and his angels were cast out with him."

(Rev. 12:9)

"For we ourselves also were once foolish, disobedient, deceived, serving various lusts and pleasures, living in malice and envy, hateful, and hating one another."

(Titus 3:3)

"But if our gospel be hidden it is hidden to them that are lost, in whom the god of this age hath blinded the minds of them who believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ who is the image of God, should shine unto them."

(II Corinthians 4:3,4)

If one word were used to describe all the unsaved peoples of the world, whether rich or poor, educated or illiterate, that word would be, "deceived." It is definitely not a flattering description and many would argue against such a description, but God's Word declares it. The value of deception is that the person being deceived is not even aware of it.

I must admit that there are times when I, too, practice deception... though not as a minister. One of my hobbies is fishing. Every time I fish, I practice deception. In fact, the very words, "bait" and "lure" come from the root word meaning "to deceive." To offer the fish a bare hook would be foolish. To catch fish you must entice the fish with what looks to be a good dinner in which a hook is hidden. The more clever the deception, the more fish one is likely to catch.

Deception is also practiced in many sports. For instance, in baseball, a pitcher may throw a ball that looks to be outside the home plate but which curves in at the last moment, just catching a corner of the plate. The batter, thinking it is outside, lets it go

by and has a strike called against him. In football, tennis, and in many other sports, deception plays an important part in winning.

Satan has had several thousand years to practice deception and he has become highly successful. He knows how best to appeal to man's basic desires in order to get him to turn aside from God's perfect will. Moreover, since the Fall, Satan has been greatly aided in his deception by the natural sinfulness of the human heart. The heart of man *"is deceitful above all things and desperately wicked."* (Jeremiah 17:9)

Jesus declared that in the closing days before His return, Satan would be especially seeking to deceive not only the unbeliever but the Christian as well.

"Take heed that no man deceive you. For many shall come in my name, saying, I am Christ; and shall deceive many."

(Matthew 24:4, 5)

"And many false prophets shall rise, and shall deceive many. And because iniquity shall abound, the love of many shall grow cold."

(Matthew 24:11, 12)

The Apostle Paul was given a very specific message by the Holy Spirit for the church toward the close of the age, warning against the danger of being deceived by demonic spirits, using ministers and teachers to teach false doctrine. He wrote:

"Now the Spirit speaketh expressly (plainly, definitely, explicitly, particularly, on purpose) that, in the latter times, some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing (deceiving) spirits and doctrines of demons..."

(I Timothy 4:1)

Yet, despite all the warning by Christ and the Apostle Paul, thousands of believers are being deceived with false teaching and practice, simply because they have been drawn away from the Word of God. Since all thought, truth, or belief originates either from the God of truth or from the father of lies, there is just one principle for testing the belief or doctrine—by the revealed Word of God. All **truth** is in harmony with the

Bible. All error may be seen to do one of four things:

1. Weaken the authority of the Scriptures; or
2. Distort the teaching in the Scriptures; or
3. Add to the Scriptures the thoughts of men; or
4. Put the Scriptures entirely aside.

The way many believers are led astray by false teachers is by placing such confidence in men of ability and appealing personality that they do not check the things they say with Scripture. The Bible warns us, "Let no man glory in men," and when we glory in the great preaching ability of some teachers or preachers, we may be in danger of being led astray.

Now let us consider some specific warnings in Scripture whereby believers may be deceived.

"Be ye doers of the word and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves."

(James 1:22)

It is not mere knowledge that saves and transforms a life—it is the putting of faith to work that produces these results. Jesus said to His disciples, "If ye know these things, happy are ye if ye do them." Also, the closing illustration which Jesus gave in His Sermon on the Mount likened the person who heard His words and did not obey them to a man who built his house upon sand, which, when the storm came, fell, having no foundation.

An interesting character in John Bunyan's *PILGRIM'S PROGRESS* is "Talkative," who could discuss any subject but knew nothing in his experience of the grace of God. In fact, he could talk even more readily of spiritual things when he was a little drunk—but who would listen to him at such a time?

Preachers can preach loudly against sin and still hold sin to their heart, and people can talk much about prayer and Bible study and living for Christ, yet know little of these in experience. Such only deceive themselves, says James.

"If any man among you seem to be religious, and bridleth not his tongue,

continued...

...but deceiveth his own heart, this man's religion is vain. Pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father is this: to visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction, and to keep oneself unspotted from the world."

(James 1:26, 27)

"Faith without works is dead." If there isn't some obvious evidence of the working of God in the life, a person may be deceived into thinking he is a Christian when in reality he is not. A person's speech is often a good indicator of his spiritual life.

The Bible also tells us that we deceive ourselves if we feel that we as believers no longer have sin.

"If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us."

(I John 1:8)

Sin is anything that does not come up to God's standard of holiness and love. The Christian life, like the physical life, has a definite beginning followed by a process of growth, sometimes rapid, at other times slower. The Christian life may also experience backsliding and departure from obedience and fellowship with God. We are always on the road to perfection though we never fully reach it in this life. However, I pray that it may be the desire of each of us to say with the Apostle Paul:

"That I may know Him, and the power of His resurrection, and the fellowship of His sufferings, being made comfortable unto His death,

If by any means I might attain unto the resurrection of the dead.

Not as though I had already attained, either were already perfect; but I follow after, if that I may apprehend that for which also I am apprehended of Christ Jesus.

Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended; but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before,

I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus."

(Philippians 3:10-14)

The problem with many is that they are so spiritually dead that they are not even aware that anything is wrong in their relationship with Christ. Like the Laodicean Church, they feel the need of nothing; yet God saw them as blind and naked and poor and in need of everything.

Again the Apostle John reminds us

that it is not "talk" but "walk." It is not just profession of the Lord Jesus, but "possession" of the Holy Spirit and being possessed by Him that counts.

"Little children, let no man deceive you: he that doeth righteousness is righteous, even as He is righteous."

(I John 3:7)

The Apostle Paul emphasizes this same truth in several of his epistles:

"For this ye know, that no fornicator, nor unclean person, nor covetous man (who is an idolator) hath any inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and of God. Let no man deceive you with vain words: for because of these things cometh the wrath of God upon the sons of disobedience."

(Ephesians 5:5,6)

"Know ye not that the unrighteous shall not inherit the kingdom of God? Be not deceived: neither fornicators, nor idolators, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor abusers of themselves with mankind, nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners, shall inherit the kingdom of God."

(I Corinthians 6:9, 10)

These and many more of the Apostle's words indicate that many are deceived into thinking that it is well with their soul when in reality, it is not. I am sure that in our churches there are many just so deceived. They may attend church regularly or perhaps only when convenient and feel they have performed their little duty to God, yet have little interest in God's Word, in prayer, or in the kingdom of God. They manifest no burden for the lost and give little time or money to reach them for Christ.

Paul wrote to the Galatians, *"If a man think himself to be something, when he is nothing, he deceiveth himself."* (Galatians 6:3) I have heard people say, "If so and so gets to heaven, I will too, for I'm as good as he is." Well, we all know that the way to make ourselves look good is to compare ourselves with someone far worse (in our eyes). But we are not to compare ourselves with others, but with the Lord Jesus Christ. He alone is our example. How does my life rate with His? Do I love what He loves and hate what He hates?

Another way that Christians may be deceived is to think that the kind of company one keeps doesn't affect their spiritual lives. Paul again said, *"Be not deceived, evil company corrupts good*

morals." (I Corinthians 15:33) In this, Peter is a good illustration of a bad example. He was an apostle, filled with the Holy Spirit and a great church leader, yet he was greatly affected by certain brethren. Peter had gone to Antioch to encourage the believers, many or most of whom were Gentiles. He ate with them and enjoyed good fellowship with them—until certain brethren—Jewish legalizers—came from Jerusalem. Fearing them and the report they would give back at the home church, Peter separated himself from the Gentile believers. When he did, so did others, even Barnabas. Paul, realizing the effect this would have on the presentation of the Gospel and of the unity of the body of Christ, publicly rebuked Peter—to the benefit of Peter and of the Church and of the Gospel.

We are influenced by the company we keep, and this can include the company we keep in our living rooms by means of television, or of the kind of books and magazines we read. We are also influenced by the company we keep when that company is the Lord Jesus Christ. With Him as our companion and friend, we grow in His likeness, sharing His love and joy.

Finally, (for the purpose of this article) the Bible says we are deceived if we think that we can sow and not reap. This must be one of Satan's favorite deceptions, but God's Word clearly says:

"Be not deceived, God is not mocked, for whatever a man soweth, that shall he also reap. For he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption: but he that soweth to the spirit shall of the spirit reap life everlasting."

(Galatians 6:7,8)

The devil really fooled Eve on this one. He told her that she could disobey God and receive a blessing for it. The devil is a liar and tries to make us believe that we can lie and cheat and be immoral, etc., and not suffer the consequences of our sin. But God is "not mocked." He knows our heart, our thoughts, and our deeds, and though God is merciful, not rewarding us as our deeds deserve, and forgiving all sin that is repented of, and declaring righteousness to the account of him who trusts in Jesus Christ, yet God is just. *"His eyes behold, His eyelids test the children of men. Upon the wicked He shall rain snares, fire and brimstone, and an horrible tempest; this shall be the portion of their cup."*

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For the righteous Lord loveth righteousness; His countenance doth behold the upright." (Psalm 11:4, 6, 7)

Beloved, let us remember that the Apostle Paul tells us that we all were once deceived, serving various lusts

and pleasures; but that *"the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men, teaching us that denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present age, looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious*

appearing of the great God and our Saviour, Jesus Christ, who gave Himself for us that He might redeem us from all iniquity and purify unto Himself a people of His own, zealous of good works."

(Titus 2:11-14)

MISSIONS

For Praise & Prayer

"So we ourselves ought to support such people . . . to be fellow workers with them in the truth." III John 8.

Update on the ministry of Warren and Hilve Mason with Navigators.

After thirteen years of conducting Leadership and Discipleship training of university students in New Zealand, Warren and Hilve Mason have accepted an invitation to return to the United States for further assignment, very likely in the Urbana-Champaign area. Warren wrote, "Thinking of coming back to the States is almost like a step into the unknown after being outside for most of thirteen years."

They will be in the Zion area about the middle of January, then take up residence in Urbana. Pray for them as they seek housing, get the children settled in a new school, and begin their ministry among students at the University of Illinois at Urbana.

Ashford, Connecticut

Excerpts of a letter from Mike Grigas
Evangelical Baptist Camp
R.F.D. 1, Box 131
Ashford, CT 06278

In Memoriam

Mr. Ralph Wagner, October 28, 1981, in Chicago.

Mrs. Archie (Opal) LaBelle (nee Hanna), December 7, 1981, in Kenosha.

Laota Dexter (nee Detienne) December 10, 1981, in Waukegan.

Elder Wilford Timothy Thane, December 14, 1981, in Jamaica.

Infant Jarrett Hough December 28, 1981.

Mrs. Harry (Ella) Benjamin December 27, 1981.

Mrs. Edward (Florence) Loehrke (nee McCulloch), January 9, 1982, in Michigan.

Mrs. George (Lillian) Klebenow (nee Foster), January 13, 1982.

Mrs. John (Gladys) Studebaker, (nee Kesler), January 15, 1982, in Washington.

Mr. Paul Brockway
January 18, 1982

Dear Friend,

God has given me a burden to minister to Russian emigres and for that purpose I served as a short-term worker with the Slavic Gospel Association in New York. There are over 70,000 Russian-Jewish emigres in the New York area with more coming all the time. Following my term with S.G.A., I remained in New York for a while to continue working with emigres on my own, then returned to Zion in September. The latter part of October, I received an invitation to join the staff of the Evangelical Baptist Camp in Ashford, Connecticut. This camp is a part of the Russian-Ukrainian Evangelical Baptist Union with a year-round ministry in Bible conferences and retreats.

Since the Camp operates as a Faith Mission, it was necessary for me to raise my own support, except for board

and room which is furnished by the Camp. As thrilled as I was to receive the invitation, the necessity of raising a minimum of \$300 per month support seemed like an impossible mountain in my way. How I praise God for the members of the Christian Catholic Church in Zion, and friends in Wheaton and the New York area who responded to my need with promises of prayer and financial support.

Just before Christmas I left for Ashford, assured of God's guidance and joyful in being able to use my training in the Russian language and other Slavic studies to reach some of these dear people for Christ. Do pray for me that my life and service for Christ will be effective. May 1982 be a great year for each of us as we press on in our service for Him. (Phil. 3:14)

Prayerfully and joyfully in Him,
Mike Grigas

A Tribute To Elder W. T. Thane

by Rev. Earl L. Minton

On December 15th, I received a phone call from Pastor Ivis Melbourne in Montego Bay, informing me of the passing of Elder W. T. Thane, and asking if I could be present for the funeral. After discussing the matter with Overseer Ottersen, it was felt that I should go. Elder Thane had been in our ministry in Jamaica since 1930, and had been a faithful warrior for the faith until he was too old to leave his home. When too old and weak to go out, he built a little chapel by his home to conduct prayer meetings for any who would come and join him for worship. During my ministry in Jamaica

from 1959-69, a great bond of affection had developed between Elder Thane and myself. He was a pastor deeply committed to church planting and to faithful shepherding.

The funeral service for Elder Thane was held at the Rosemount Missionary Church in Montego Bay on Monday, December 21st, with burial at his own home just over ten miles away at Windsor Lodge, Sommerton. Despite the rain, it was well attended by many from all of the churches which he had served, some having come a long distance at personal sacrifice. Other

continued...

ministers also attended, including Rev. S. R. Hanson from Mandeville, who gave the sermon, and Rev. Peter Spencer, President of the Missionary Church, from Kingston.

Elder Thane was deeply loved because he not only preached, but gave of himself to be of help to others in every way possible.

Though my stay in Jamaica was very brief, I did my best to visit as many churches and friends as possible. I was particularly happy to see the growth of the church at Hopewell and at Bamboo, a daughter church of Hopewell. I was also happy to see the people of Jamaica experiencing a lot of hope

since the Marxist government of Michael Manley was overturned in the last election. Yet, Jamaica faces staggering economic problems, and a comment I heard on television was that the average family spends 50% of its wage on food alone.

My few days in Montego Bay brought a burden to my heart for I saw masses of people but little evidence of interest in the things of God. One of my happiest experiences and one that gave me great hope was the visit to the campus of the Jamaica Theological Seminary in Kingston. God has really blessed this school and it has now been accredited by the Carribbean Ac-

crediting Association so that students completing their four years at J.T.S. are easily accepted by graduate schools in the United States and other countries. Also, plans are being made for a graduate school of theology on the J.T.S. campus, hopefully by the year 1984. Such a school is badly needed for ministry throughout the entire Carribbean area. Pray that God will provide the needed funds and staff for such a school.

Pray for Jamaica. Pray especially for revival in the larger cities, where people are so occupied to simply earn bread for the body to the neglect of the soul.

Christian Education Corner

A Good Teacher

by Rev. Hugh Mainord

I. A Good Teacher Knows The Bible Lesson

If Sunday School quarterlies are used, he will preview the entire quarter's lessons to see what teaching aids or what special study will be needed. He also prepares the lesson sufficiently in advance to give time for the lesson to become "a part of him." In lesson preparation, he studies the Scriptures first, asking the Lord to teach him directly from them. Next, he studies the teacher's quarterly for the helps contained therein. If commentaries or other reference books are available he may also study these for additional help, ever remembering that the Bible is the final authority, not man's interpretations—including his own.

In thinking through the lesson he will want to know the lesson aim—what he really hopes to get across to the students. He will also want to know how to introduce the lesson in a way that the students will relate to it. An outline of the lesson with appropriate questions, illustrations and what visual aids he intends to use is very useful for an orderly presentation. With the use of the outline, he would really teach from the Bible—with enthusiasm.

II. A Good Teacher Knows His Students

Through reading and observation he seeks to discover the age-group characteristics and interests of those he teaches. He also seeks to become personally acquainted with the student

"outside" the classroom in order to get to really know him as well as to build a bond that will enable him to better minister to the needs of that person. Time spent with the student outside the classroom is often his most effective teaching time. (Thinking back on those who have been our teachers, I am sure that those we most appreciated were those who took the most personal interest in us.)

III. A Good Teacher Also Knows His Methods

"Telling," is often not "teaching." The worst method, of course, is the same method used over and over. A good teacher seeks to use a variety of methods with emphasis upon what they can see and what they can do. He studies different methods and practices them, using those he feels most comfortable with. Naturally, he avoids questions that can be answered by a mere "Yes" or "No". He especially practices telling the stories so that he can tell them with enthusiasm and bodily animation. He remembers that Jesus used visual aids in telling His stories (as the flowers of the field, etc.) and he seeks to use appropriate visual aids in his lessons. These may include things from nature, or the use of a chalkboard, flannelgraph, maps, charts, puppets, filmstrips, object lessons, overhead projector, or whatever he can draw or make. He also tries to get them involved in the lesson by role-play, field trips, projects, interviews, handwork or drama.

Teaching is not just a natural ability, it takes effort. We can all be better teachers by working at it. We should also strive to be the kind of teacher we would want to have.

Testimony of Doug LaBelle

I graduated from the Univ. of Wisc. at LaCrosse with a major in accounting with emphasis in computer science. Some of you might wonder how I got from accounting to seminary. Well, at the end of my senior year, I had interviews with a couple of positions and both happened to open up. At that time I was working with a Youth Pastor in a Free Church and I was also working with a guy who was discipling me for a couple of years. They both gave me definite challenges in my life to consider the ministry. I said, "What do you mean? I have just gone four years studying accounting and planning on getting into business of some kind, and you're telling me I should consider seminary, after spending thousands of dollars in a field basically unrelated to theology. I did not learn too much theology in my advanced accounting course.

Even after receiving two job interviews, I sat down and I said, "Lord, why would two men that mean very much to me in my life challenge me along the same line?" I asked one

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of them, "Why do you suggest my going into the ministry?" His answer was, "I perceive that you have a desire to know the Lord and you have a desire to learn and to study and I don't see you having a total peace about heading into business at this time.

To make a long story short, I called both the people back that I had had job interviews with and told them that I would not be able to take their job offers. When they asked me why, I rather shocked them a little when I told them I would be going to seminary.

At the end of the first year, I was asked to consider teaching the Young Singles Class. My first reaction negative. The class had been having a lot of problems with personality conflicts, and they just didn't seem to be making any headway. But then I thought — "Am I looking for a place to minister, or am I looking for an ideal or easy situation?" I took the class and it was a great challenge to me but God has blessed and the class has grown both in numbers as well as in a caring relationship for one another.

Watching the Parade Through a Knothole

Imagine a little boy watching a parade go down his street through a knothole view of the parade. If he sees a lion, he gets scared. If he sees a clown he laughs. If he sees and hears a band, he taps his foot. If he sees a space between the band and the acrobats he may think the parade is over. He has to evaluate the parade on the basis of what he sees or what he doesn't see and the whole experience can be very frustrating. But suppose as he is watching the parade, his brother calls out to him. His brother has crawled up on the roof of the house behind the fence and is calling little brother to come and join him. So the little brother scrambles up on the housetop with his big brother. The view from the housetop is great! Now he can see the beginning of the parade, the middle of it, and 'way down the street, the end of it. And how great it is! He is seeing things in a new perspective. He doesn't

have to fear the lion, because just behind it come the clown and the acrobats. He doesn't have to be afraid of the bearded lady, because just behind her comes the big brass band and the jugglers. The perspective from the rooftop is entirely different from the view through the knothole.

Unfortunately for us, in real life we can't climb up on the roof to get God's perspective of life. We are stuck with the knothole in the fence. All we can see of life's parade is what is happening to us at the moment. We see the lion and we get scared because we can't see the clown coming behind him. All we can do is trust God who loves us and who turns out to be the Parade Master who put the whole thing together in the first place.

So the view of life's parade through the knothole in the fence can be very

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Testimony of Carolyn Switzer

January, 1982

Dear Friend,

God has answered prayer many times for us this past year and particularly during this past month, and I would like to share some of His answers with you because they've been exciting to us.

As you know, David became very ill for a few weeks the first part of December and we were thankful to discover it was **only** colitis, bladder infections and a virus. We received word from across country that Cheryl was very ill from what they believed to be measles. The following week I broke out from head to toe with measles - very embarrassing - who ever heard of a grandmother with measles? Because I was very ill with this, I soon forgot the embarrassment and only prayed I'd be well. We praise God that all three of us are now feeling fine and have one more reminder to thank God for the good health we too often take for granted. Hearing from so many of you - that you were praying - was an added blessing.

January 1st we had planned an Open House at our home, inviting friends from our little church in Maracay, as

well as missionary friends here in El Limon. Not knowing how many might drop by, Cheryl and I had lots of fun baking and preparing food, while David decorated outside.

The afternoon before (New Years Eve), David came home very upset and told us he had just been hit by a por puesto (van that carries approximately 20 passengers and is Venezuela's main mode of transportation). He was not injured physically - which is our most important reason to praise God - but our car door which he had just begun to open - about 12" open - was completely destroyed. Needless to say, the emotional strain of this added burden when we are scheduled to leave for TEAM's Annual Conference in Rubio, 450 miles away, was difficult. However, God once more intervened and after prayer we received a phone call from friends who are going back to the U.S. - to hopefully be granted new visas to re-enter - called and offered to loan us their car for the trip.

We asked others here to pray that God would give peace and enable us to continue preparations for our party New Years Day. He did, and we entertained 60 guests with happy hearts.

We discussed the fact we should not have been surprised at this added attack by satan because God had given us so many reasons to rejoice over our Christmas Day - we determined satan would not win and we thank God even in this letter to you for what God did in answer to prayer for Christmas:

Being sick the week before Christmas, I wondered how we would spend Christmas Day. We had not been invited out (and I was even feeling sorry for ourselves - smile) and I felt too sick to think about preparing a big meal, and didn't know who to invite anyway. As we prayed about this we decided to pray **specifically** that God would give physical strength and send someone to us that we could be a blessing to.

Once our desires were to reach out to someone in need, instead of being concerned about ourselves, things began to happen. Just five days before Christmas we decided to invite an American family who had recently visited our church. They had lost a nine year old boy in an auto accident just two days before Christmas four years ago. When we invited the husband, he

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frustrating. A loved one dead, a little one tragically killed, a husband run away, seen through the knothole of the moment can break our hearts. But if we trust that the view from the rooftop makes sense—if we believe that God is in control of the whole parade, then we can trust Him and have faith that even what we are seeing right now will, in the end, work for good.

Some years ago, long after World War II was over, out in the desert of North Africa, men exploring for oil found an incredible thing. There, sitting intact in the desert, all of her instruments still workable, was a World War II bomber. On the nose of her fuselage the name of the plane was still legible. She was the Lady Be Good. A search of the records showed that the plane had gone out on a mission and had never been heard from again. But how could this be, for here the plane was 400 miles past its destination in the desert.

How did it happen? Investigators concluded that the Lady Be Good had gotten into a high altitude air current that doubled its speed without the crew being aware of it. Since the crew knew how long it ordinarily took them to return to base, when they reached their destination in half the time it ordinarily took them they assumed their instruments were in error and flew on into the desert. At last their fuel ran out and they crash-landed. Later on searchers found the remains of several of the crew who perished trying to get help.

Disaster came because the crew would not believe their instruments. Isn't that what happens to us when we don't trust God? The Bible promises us that if we love God, everything is working for our good. But when we don't trust Him, when we refuse to put our faith in Him, we always end up in some desert of despair.

Do you remember that incredible New York Met team of 1969? The year before they had been mired in the bottom of their division. Yet in 1969 they not only won their league title, but went on to beat Baltimore in the World Series in five games. What happened to turn the tramps of the league into world champions? Well, the year before, their manager, Gil Hodges, had a heart attack. The doctors were pessimistic, but he began to fight his way back to health. As he thought about coaching again he determined that he would stress the fundamentals of baseball with his players, but would

stress another kind of fundamental, too; their attitude toward defeat; because, as he put it, "you tend to become what you think about." "We walked off the field...champions of the world because," he said, "we learned our lesson about where the real fundamentals lie."

When you look through the knothole at life's parade and see some tragedy, some hurt, some defeat, it is so easy to lose confidence. So often we ourselves become defeated because of our attitude and we become what we think about. But the man who trusts the parade master, the man who refuses to give in to the view through

the knothole, who believes that even in the worst that life brings God is working to bring good out of it, will not surrender to despair. In the end He will walk off the field a champion.

Let me suggest one final thought. Most of us ask about the meaning of life when things go bad. But remember Romans 8:28 says that "*in everything God is working for good for those who love Him.*"

by Dr. Andrew Jumper, Pastor
Central Presbyterian Church
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The Intercessory Prayer Ministry of the Lord Jesus Christ on our Behalf

I wonder if we realize how greatly we are indebted to the Lord Jesus Christ for His intercessory prayer ministry on our behalf. Let us consider a few verses of Scripture on this great subject.

"Wherefore, He is able also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by Him, seeing He ever liveth to make intercession for them."

(Hebrews 7:25)

As our great High Priest, Jesus offered Himself as a sacrifice for our sins and now ever lives to make intercession for us at the throne of God. Our salvation is thus dependent on His ministry of intercessory prayer.

"Seeing, then, that we have a great High Priest, that is passed into the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast our profession."

For we have not an high priest who cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities, but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin."

Let us, therefore, come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need."

(Hebrews 4:14-16)

This passage teaches that God's mercy and grace are a result of the intercessory prayer ministry of our Lord Jesus. Mercy is the withholding of God's judgment for sin, and grace is the expression of God's love. In other words, all the blessings of life come to us as a result of the intercessory prayer of the Lord Jesus.

"If ye love me, keep my commandments. And I will pray the Father, and He shall give you another

Comforter, that He may abide with you forever."

(John 14:15, 16)

The Holy Spirit was poured out upon the Church in response to the intercession of the Lord Jesus after He had made payment for our sins on the cross.

"Father, I will that they also, whom thou hast given me, be with me where I am, that they may behold my glory, which thou has given me; for thou lovest me before the foundation of the world."

(John 17:24)

Our hope of heaven is also due to the intercessory prayer ministry of the Lord Jesus on our behalf. In fact, there is not a single blessing that comes to us that is not directly related to Christ's intercession in our behalf at the throne of grace. Let's pause right now to thank Him for this loving ministry on our behalf—and become involved in a ministry of intercession for others.

E.L.M.

I have wept in the night
For the shortness of sight

That to somebody's need made me
blind.

But I never have yet
Felt a tinge of regret

For being a little too kind!

The Heavens declare the glory of
God,

But the Cross reveals His grace.

The firmament showeth His
handiwork,

But Calvary showeth His face!

Directory of Ministers of the Christian Catholic Church January 1982

Administrative Council

Roger W. Ottersen,
General Overseer
Earl L. Minton
Hugh Mainord
John McCulloch, lay rep.

Pastoral Ministers Assigned

Earl L. Minton
Clark B. Offner
Hugh Mainord
Roger Ottersen
Noel Smith
Bernard Reimer
Dean Matteson

General Council

Roger W. Ottersen
Earl L. Minton
Clark B. Offner
*G. William Mason
Hugh Mainord
Noel Smith
Bernard Reimer
Dean Matteson
Field Supervisor of Guyana

Eligible for General Overseer

Roger W. Ottersen
Earl L. Minton
Clark B. Offner
G. William Mason
Hugh Mainord
Noel Smith
Dean Matteson

Parish Ministers

Australia:
Ronald Jenkins
John MacKenzie
Canada:
Samuel Harrichand
Guyana:
Edward Pollard, Acting Field
Supervisor
Eric Gray
Bhola Bipa
James Harichand

Israel:

Dahar Nassar
George Nassar

Japan:

Shozaburo Tomita

Philippines:

National Council of Philippines:
Pat Hermosilla, Elder-in-Charge
National Church Council Members:
Ellie Mercado
Jose Masaglang
Roberto Dizon, Jr.
Jerry de la Pena

Davao del Sur Advisory Council
Jose Masaglang
Waling Masaglang
Rosalio Pado

Davao Oriental Advisory Council
Fred de Guzman
Constancio Balili

United Kingdom:

Arthur Murton

United States:

Navajo Reservation:
Jerry Begay
Roy Tate

Southern Africa

The work of the C.C.C. in Southern Africa is under the direction of the **Mahon Mission** Rev. Edgar Mahon, Superintendent.

Preparatory Ministers and/or Commissioned

Timothy Allen (U.S.A.)
Richard Anderson (U.S.A.)
Randolph Capp (Egypt)
Daniel Lehman (U.S.A.)
LeRoy Nez (U.S.A.)
Alwin October (Guyana)
Michael Shivrattan (Guyana)

Retired Ministers

Leland Barton (U.S.A.)
Maximo Industan (Philippines)
Michael Khayat (U.S.A.)
Carl Q. Lee (U.S.A.)
Theodore Mason (U.S.A.)
Jabez Taylor (U.S.A.)
Raymond Uren (Australia)

*Under Special Assignment

Pastoral Ministers are listed in order of ordination. Parish, Preparatory, and retired Ministers are listed alphabetically. There are others who have been ordained by the Christian Catholic Church but are not assigned under our Church and therefore are not listed.

thanked us but declined as his wife just hadn't been able to leave the house on Christmas Day since their son had been killed. Bitterness and hurt had grown.

God knew their need though, and after the mother thanked me and had said, "No," I told her that we had specifically prayed for guidance in whom to ask, and they were the ones we felt God wanted us to invite. However, I told her that if they couldn't come, we would understand, but if they changed their mind, we wouldn't invite any others. Then she said that she had heard that I, too, had lost a son and that she had wanted to talk with me but didn't know how. She then promised to come if she could bring the turkey, dressing and gravy — which I had not yet purchased because of my illness. She even offered to bring a can of cranberry sauce which they had brought down from the States.

The next morning I received a call from a young woman who had seen an article we had put in the paper about our English-speaking church, giving our phone number. I invited her to lunch and while here, she picked up a new piano book Cheryl had received for Christmas. Looking at the first song, "He's Alive," she proceeded to tell us that their eight year old daughter had died of cancer just two Christmases before, and that while still in the hospital, a recording artist had come to sing for her and the other children and she had asked him to sing her favorite song, "He's Alive."

As this young woman poured out her heart we shed tears together when I told her that we, too, had faced heartache. I kept thinking of my promise to the other family, yet I also felt the Lord wanted me to invite this family also for Christmas. I decided to tell her of our desire to have them and of my promise to the other family. She replied that she would love to come as they had been in Venezuela for only two months and didn't know anyone else. She mentioned that her husband was having a hard time at Christmas because of Carrie's death and might not be willing to come.

God gave us a blessed Christmas together with an openness of heart and freedom to share. So, as you were at home praying for us, God poured out abundant blessings — much more than we could ever ask or think!

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